

# *Sangamon Valley LEPC*

P.O. Box 2105, Springfield IL 62705

January 21, 2010

## Summary Report Relative to LEPC Activities During 2009

*During calendar year 2009, the Sangamon Valley LEPC convened regularly scheduled meetings on five occasions: January 15, March 19, May 21, September 17 and November 19. A quorum of our membership was present at each of these meetings. Meetings were held at the Office of the State Fire Marshal (3), Athens Community Park (1, May) and the Sangamon County Office of Emergency Management (1, September).*

*The January LEPC meeting was held on the coldest morning of the year with a temperature of 9 degrees below zero and was attended by 14 members and 5 visitors. It provided the Chair, David Butt, with the opportunity to present the committee with the 2008 LEPC Summary Report which was reviewed and approved for submission to the State Emergency Response Committee (SERC). As 2009 began, our Emergency Coordinator, Matt Helms, had completed site specific plans for 42 facilities storing Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS). Planning for 14 EHS sites was still needed, based on the Tier 2 reporting of 2008 and/or our knowledge of Anhydrous Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) storage. In 2009, 2 NH<sub>3</sub> facilities would make their first filings of Tier 2 forms after urging from the LEPC that this was a requirement.*

*The January LEPC meeting featured a presentation by Matt Barnes and Chuck Schaffer from the National Weather Service office at Lincoln. They provided a hand-out and video discussing HYSPLIT modeling for plume and dispersion forecasting. HYSPLIT was compared with familiar modeling available through the CAMEO suite.*

*The March LEPC meeting was attended by 16 members and 2 visitors. It was the first opportunity for the committee to receive information about reporting requirements for large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) to report continuous release of ammonia and hydrogen sulfide to their SERC and LEPC. Such reports had been received on deadline from 4 hog CAFOs within our planning district (2 from each county).*

*The May LEPC meeting was attended by 15 members and 4 visitors. It was our first meeting held in Menard County. Something we intend to do annually. The implications of H1N1 influenza was a topic of great discussion led by 5 committee members representing health, hospitals and first aid. The full committee was also briefed on the Emergency Coordinator's attendance at the Midwest Emergency Preparedness & Response Conference in Rockford on May 6-8, which included his participation in a tabletop exercise on behalf of the LEPC on Friday morning.*

*On May 19, the LEPC (through its law enforcement, firefighting, emergency management and public health membership categories) participated in a tabletop exercise facilitated by a U.S. Department of Energy focus group to identify tools and resources that responders desire to enhance operations. The scenario involved a HAZMAT accident of an in-transit chemical wrongly routed into Springfield on South Sixth Street.*

*By May, the SERC's extended deadline for the annual filing of Tier 2 forms had passed. At this juncture, we had received 125 forms, with 75 of these storing EHS. This was a marked increase over the total of 105 Tier 2 forms for the previous year. The increase was attributed to the addition of Menard County to our planning district, greater compliance for diesel fuel storage at fixed generator locations and an aggressive program to get proper filings for NH<sub>3</sub> storage sites.*

*The September LEPC meeting was attended by 9 members and 7 visitors. It was our annual meeting giving the public an opportunity to review planning documents and ask questions. A press release to this effect had been issued and a couple of visitors remained after the meeting to look over our plans for the storage of NH3 in and around Williamsville. This was a matter of significance as a tornado moved through Williamsville during the afternoon of August 19, which damaged an EHS facility in the town. The NH3 was not impacted, but a small amount of herbicide was spilled for which a good dike system kept the product from being lost. From our LEPC, the categories of local officials, law enforcement, first aid, health, hospitals, firefighting, emergency management, local environmental, media, community groups and regulated facilities were all involved for this real-world event at Williamsville.*

*There were 2 presentations by members at the September meeting. Dick Rentschler provided an overview of MABAS Division 48 resources and their availability. These resources are identified in every planning document we prepare under the heading "Community Emergency Response Resources & Procedures". MABAS resources were utilized by first responders on August 19. John Brennan discussed Memorial Medical Center's hazard vulnerability assessment (HVA) for which the LEPC Chair was invited as a contributor regarding the risk associated with the external hazards we plan for.*

*The September meeting also saw the committee extend the Emergency Coordinator's contract for another year to continue our site specific planning project. Meeting dates for the next 12 months were set. Finally, a copying fee was established by recommendation of the Information Coordinator, Bill Russell, in accordance with the LEPC bylaws.*

*The November LEPC meeting was attended by 12 members and 1 guest. On behalf of the village of Sherman, member Mike Moos gave a presentation on notification (alerting) systems. Sherman investigated several vendors before selecting a system and was joined by the village of Williamsville in bringing their new system online. Adding this resource was important for Williamsville in view of the tornado it experienced 3 months earlier.*

*The Chair briefed the committee on changes to the IL Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) which will take effect in 2010 pursuant to an e-mail from the SERC. The committee acted to designate our Information Coordinator as the FOIA Officer for the LEPC. It was agreed that our bylaws, last amended one year ago, should be looked at for further amendment in relation to this topic.*

*Finally, the Emergency Coordinator presented the committee with background information on 2 sites within our planning district (1 from each county) serving as bulk fuel terminals. While the hydrocarbons at these sites are not EHS, each facility has significant risk associated with it. Authorization was given for the preparation of a site specific plan for each location in a format similar to that used for the storage of EHS. Both plans were completed in December.*

**Statistics for LEPC activities during 2009 are as follows:**

*112 Tier 2 forms were received for sites within Sangamon County. 14 Tier 2 forms were received for sites within Menard County. Of these 126 filings, 76 included at least one EHS chemical and 50 were for non-EHS sites. Our Emergency Coordinator completed 13 new site specific plans. This brings his total over 4 years to 55. Of these 55 completed plans, 17 received their first annual revision, 12 received their second annual revision and 13 received their third annual revision during 2009. The Emergency Coordinator drove over 5,000 miles during 2009 while pursuing our site specific planning project for EHS chemicals stored within Sangamon and Menard Counties. Sangamon Valley LEPC has 28 members.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

***DButt***

*LEPC Chair*